

REMARKS

Claims 16–35 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1–15 were canceled as directed to an embodiment elected in the parent application.

Claims 23–35 were added.

Examination of the application on the merits is respectfully requested.

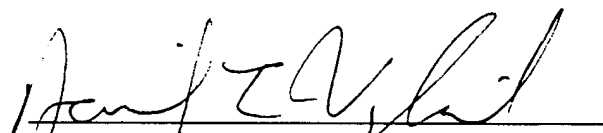
If any issues arise, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of this Application, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *dvenglarik@novakov.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

NOVAKOV DAVIS & MUNCK, P.C.

Date: 1-25-02


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